

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

TOM DAVIS, CHAIRMAN



NEWS RELEASE

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House Approves GSA Modernization Act

*First Significant GSA Reform Effort in over Twenty Years
Transforms the Way Federal Government Buys Goods, Services*

Washington, D.C. – House Government Reform Committee Chairman Tom Davis (R-VA) is pleased to announce that the U.S. House of Representatives today unanimously approved H.R. 2066, the “General Service Administration (GSA) Modernization Act.” This legislation would modernize GSA by bringing it in line with the commercial market it must capture for its federal agency customers.

H.R. 2066, introduced by Chairman Davis and House Armed Services Committee Chairman Duncan Hunter (R-CA), amends the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act to create a new Federal Acquisition Service, which combines the existing Federal Supply Service, the current purchaser of goods and services for the federal government, and Federal Technology Service, the current supplier of information technology to federal agencies. The Federal Acquisition Service will be supported by a newly created Acquisition Services Fund consisting of the assets of the old Information Technology and Supply Funds.

“This legislation offers fundamental organizational change within GSA by removing the old structures that inhibit efficient federal purchases. We can help bring GSA in line with the current commercial market that has evolved from stand-alone hardware or services to solutions that are a mix of products, services and technology,” said Chairman Davis. “While the bifurcated system may have made sense two decades ago when IT investments were a relatively new phenomenon, technologies such as laptop computers, cell phones, and email are now as ubiquitous as desks and phones.”

“Two separate buying organizations operating out of two different funds has become a barrier to coordinated acquisition of management services and the technology needed to support a total solution,” added Davis. “The Federal marketplace should reflect

the best of the commercial marketplace: both in the products and services we buy and the way we buy them.”

The legislation would also authorize the GSA Administrator to appoint up to five “Regional Executives” for the Federal Acquisition Service to facilitate closer oversight and more management control over acquisition-related activities in GSA’s regions. Recently, the existing GSA regions were the subject of Inspector General reports that revealed evidence of acquisition mismanagement.

In addition, the legislation would establish retention bonuses and reemployment relief aimed at maintaining the strength and experience of the federal government’s civilian acquisition workforce. More specifically, the section would provide that an individual receiving a Civil Service Annuity who becomes reemployed in an acquisition-related position would not have his or her annuity discontinued.

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